

Remarkable CURES

PERFORMD BY

THE MESSIAH'S
T A R - W A T E R;

Collected out of the

Gentleman's Magazine, &c.

To be had of the proprietor of the Tar-water warehouse,
in Painter's-court, Bury-street, St James's, five doors
from Jermyn-street. ALSO, at Mr Steidel's, the
Bible and Crown in New Bond-street; Mr Harding's,
on the pavement in St Martin's-lane; Mr Wood-
fall's at Charing Cross; Mrs Dodd, by St Clement's
Church; Mr Bickerton at the Temple Change; Mr Man-
by, and Mr Cox, on Ludgate-Hill; Mrs Nutt, and
Mr Cook, at the Royal Exchange; and Mr Trye, near
Gray's-Inn-Gate, Holbourn.

Price 4 d.



Y E L L O W T A B

ADVERTISEMENT.

Tar-water, and Turpentine-water,
Sold at the warehouse in Painter's-court,
Bury-street, St James's, five doors from
Jermyn-street, Tar-water at 4s. a dozen,
or 4d. a bottle, Turpentine-water at 6s.
a dozen, or 6d. a bottle.

They are found by theory and experiments
to cure flatulent colics, bad digestion,
relaxed nerves, hysterics, lowness of spi-
rits, scurvy and foul cases, asthma,
gravel, and rheumatism, ulceration of
the lungs, consumptive coughs, decayed
constitutions, and of great use in the gout.

Affidavit will be made (if required) that the
Tar-water is never made but once from
the same Tar.

The best Tar 6d. a quart.

Sea Water 4d. a bottle.

One Shilling a dozen allow'd for bottles, if
return'd.



[*]

C A S E S

IN WHICH

T A R-W A T E R

Has been greatly beneficial.



TAR-WATER taken fasting near a pint for five days successively, after that every other day half a pint for two weeks, and then a quarter of a pint during the infection. By this remedy several persons in *Charles Town, South Carolina*, where the small pox was lately very mortal, escap'd the infection, though conversant with the infected, and one in particular has been since twice inoculated without any effect; which seems to prove tar-water not only a preservative but an antidote, and consequently far preferable to inoculation itself.

Gent. Mag. for Jan. 1739.

The

The copy of an affidavit concerning the virtues of Tar-water, mentioned in the Gent. Mag. for Mar. 1745, p. 163.

THE Little Foster, of Liverpool, capt. Drape, master, in the year 1742, made a voyage to Guinea, and having taken in 216 Negroes before he left the coast, he had the misfortune to see the small-pox break out amongst them. In a very short time there were no less than one hundred and seventy ill of that distemper all at once. The captain was under great concern, and fully expected, that for want of room, and other necessaries, he must infallibly lose the greatest part of them. A person on board advised the master to infuse a quantity of tar in water, and give it to the slaves to drink, saying, it was commonly practised in America, in the same case, with good success. The tar-water was prepared; but the first, to whom it was offered, obstinately refused it, and so did many more; that man died in two or three days, which the rest seeing, were more easily brought to compliance, so that partly by persuasion, partly by force, the rest were all brought to drink. The good effects followed soon after,

after, and were so plainly perceived by the poor creatures themselves, that they came upon deck, and crowding about a tub of tar-water, that was set there for them, drank plentifully of it, from time to time, of their own accord. This had an effect that could hardly be expected under the most commodious circumstances ; for of those one hundred and seventy, (most of them grown persons) not one died, except that one man, that could not be brought to drink the tar-water.

Capt. *Drape* says farther, that the Negroes continued drinking tar-water after their recovery, which they found so much relief from, that they could hardly be brought to drink any other, and that from the time of their departure from *Guinea*, to their arrival at *Jamaica*, he verily believes they did not drink above a hogshead of water, that was not impregnated with tar.

I do hereby certify, upon oath, that the contents of the above Narrative are actually, and, bona fide, true.

Liverpoole, Jan. 14, 1744. JOSEPH DRAPE.

*Taken and sworn before me, } OWEN PRITCHARD.
mayor of Liverpool, }*

In the presence of Mess. Conliff, Armitage, Reed, and Atherton, considerable merchants, and the three first owners of the said ship.

Thomas Prior, Esq; of Dublin, who has the original affidavit in his hands, and is collecting cases of the virtues of *tar-water*, adds, ‘ This instance, and many others come to my knowledge, clearly shew, that *tar-water* is so far from being dangerous in inflammatory cases, that it is a most safe and useful medicine in such cases. Many persons who did not believe that *tar-water* could be of any use to them, yet having accidentally tried it, soon found surprising benefit by it in most desperate disorders; — and indeed so many new discoveries have been made of late of the power and virtues of *tar-water*, where all other resources had fail’d, that I cannot tell how far its virtues do extend, or where it is not good.’

‘ I have accounts from *Lisbon*, that *tar-water* is in great vogue there, and that it is introduced into all their hospitals. Every one will think it reasonable, that a medicine so cheap, and so fitted to the distempers of the poor, should readily find its way into all places, where the poor are taken care of at the charge of the public. I am yours,

Tho. Prior.

An

An instance of the virtues of tar-water, made publick by a gentleman of the country of Durham.

I Had long laboured under the following complicated distempers, palsy, colick, rheumatism, gravel and piles, in all which I found surprising relief from *tar-water*, in less than a month. It has worked still greater effects on my wife, who was infected to the highest degree with that *English* plague the scurvy, together with a large train of disorders naturally incident to such a height of it; from which, by the same means, and in the same compass of time, she is recovered in such a manner as amazes all who were acquainted with her condition; and we are, for the time it has been effected in, both restored to health, in a degree infinitely beyond our most sanguin expectations. I have been a witness also of its extraordinary salutary effects on others; so that I have not the least room to doubt, that *tar-water* is the most sovereign and extensive remedy and cure for diseases in general, the safest to be taken, as well as the easiest in the operation, that ever was found out in the whole *Materia Medica.*

Gent. Mag. for July 1744.

A

A Letter taken from the Gentleman's Magazine for February 1745.

Mr URBAN,

Permit me to inform the public, that, tho' some physicians suppose that *tar-water* is hurtful in inflammatory cases, and sanguine constitutions, the bishop of *Cloyne* has lately written to a gentleman, that he never knew one instance of it; and further says, that he had just before given to his own son not eight years old, who had a fever, five quarts of *tar-water* (which had been stirred six minutes) in the space of nine hours, and that the next day the child was well without any other medicine; an effect which he had often experienced. A gentleman in the *North of England* has also written, that after he had taken the *tar-water* a month, he received much ease in a dreadful asthma, which prevented him from lying down, so that he slept always in a chair. In his letter is the following remarkable case: 'Before I drank *tar-water*, my feet were always as cold as ice, that I had not the least perspiration in them; for

for if I had not washed them for a year,
 they were as clean and dry as the back
 of my hand: as for my hose, I never
 wore a hole in the feet of them; but in
 the last month that I was so easy, I found
 my feet sweat very copiously; and of new
 hose, after one week's wear all the soles
 were mouldered away, and what was left
 was very red, as if I had burnt them; and
 where it was so red, it was so tender that
 they could not be mended, till the red
 part was taken away.

*A letter from John Usher, Esq; from Lis-
 more, in the county of Waterford, dated
 April 6, 1745, to Thomas Prior, Esq;*

THE constant employment I have
 here, has hinder'd me from collect-
 ing cases relating to *tar-water*; however,
 you shall have some in a post or two.
 My own is worth taking notice of, and
 is as follows. I have been for 12 or 14
 years troubled with a disorder in my
 nerves; it came on gradually, but at last
 to such a pitch, that there was seldom a
 night that I have not been obliged to get
 out of my bed, and walk about the room
 for

for some minutes, before I could compose myself to rest; especially on the least excess in drinking, or the least cold. As I was ready to drop asleep, my mind used to be extremely agitated, in a manner not to be described. I used to feel, at the same time, a thrilling down my thighs, and a desire to stretch, as in an ague-fit; which reliev'd me for that moment. The bed was then intolerable to me, nor could I find any relief but by getting up and walking about; tho' I have bore it with the utmost pain for above an hour. I was at Spa, and took all the nervous medicines from divers physicians, to no purpose. Dr *Lacky*'s advice concurred with my own inclinations, to induce me to drink tar-water; and I solemnly affirm, that in a fortnight's drinking it, I never had a single return of it from that day to this; which has made my life comfortable, as I used to dread the approach of night. This I the rather insist upon, as I am very sure I never drank a drop of good tar-water; for a cask of tar I had from Cork, I am now confident, had been all used before; and I am now obliged, to my great concern, to discontinue it for want

'want of good tar, for there is not a drop
'to be had at Cork that is good; and I have
'had the same complaints from others on
'that head; however, I have had no re-
'turn of my disorder. I am not at liberty
'to mention the names of two women that
'have been cured of an inveterate *fluor*
'*albus*, even by bad *tar-water*, and in a
'short time; though I am fully convinced
'of the truth of the facts, and have as
'much evidence as the nature of them will
'admit.'

I am,

Yours, &c.

*From the Rev. Mr Andrew Leslie, to
Thomas Prior, Esq;*

S I R,

AS you seem disposed to promote the
same benevolent intentions with the
author of *Siris*, give me leave to present
you with a remarkable instance of the so-
vereign efficacy of *tar-water*; which will
fully satisfy you, that a man may be perfect-
ly cured of a confirmed gout, by the
continued application of *tar-water* alone.
—I was afflicted with the gout above ten
years; which I had not by inheritance,

C

nor

' nor any intemperance of my own, having
 ' always lived very abstemiously, and eat
 ' very little flesh-meat. I am naturally
 ' costive, and therefore I drink little or no-
 ' thing but malt liquor; for if I drank a
 ' pint of claret (such was my constitution)
 ' I was sure of having the gout in a day
 ' or two after. I am at a loss to what cause
 ' to ascribe the gout, unless to the great
 ' quantity of jesuits bark I took for the cure
 ' of intermitting fevers (in the *West-Indies*)
 ' where I resided 11 years. I had the good
 ' fortune, last *May*, to meet with the trea-
 ' tise on *tar-water*; and tho' there is little
 ' said of the gout in it, I resolved to try
 ' that medicine; and finding that I grew
 ' better every day by the use of it, I con-
 ' tinued to drink it nine months; during
 ' which time I had but three fits of the
 ' gout, the longest of which did not last
 ' a week; whereas I used to be laid up six
 ' months in nine, and seldom had a fit
 ' shorter than a month's standing. When
 ' I first began to drink it, I had entirely lost
 ' my appetite, was reduced to skin and bone,
 ' had not strength to walk a-crofs my room,
 ' and, in short, every body who saw me
 ' thought I could not live a month.

have

have now a good stomach, am grown fat, can walk five miles, and am likely to live as many years as then days. I want words to expres my acknowledgments, and the grateful sense of what I owe to the author of *Siris*, for the benefits I received by this medicine, which has relieved me from eight or nine months exquisite pain in the year, and made my life a comfort, which was before a burden to me. I was as helpless as an infant, and as incapable of feeding and dressing myself; but now, I thank God, I am perfectly restored.' *I am, Sir,*

Yours, &c.

Great Britain street, } ANDREW LESLIE.
Dublin, }

An extract of a letter from Mr Lewis Lloyd of Kinsale, dated March 8.

A Poor labourer of this town, render'd incapable to get his bread, by a most violent itch that seized both his legs, after the advice of the doctors, surgeons, and apothecaries, and the last expedient, salivation, proved ineffectual, being advised to rub the sores with *tar-water*, was in three or four days perfectly cured, to ' the

the great surprize of those who had ad-
ministered before to him.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman of
worth and credit, dated April 12.*

• **T**HERE is a woman in my neighbourood who was twice married,
• and yet never was with child till she drank
• tar-water, which she took constantly for
• a good while together; and to that she
• imputes her pregnancy. Upon my far-
• ther enquiry, whether her husband also
• drank tar-water, I was assured that he
• also drank it at the same time.

*A short account of the virtues of TAR-WATER,
in the distempers mentioned by Dr BERKLEY,
bishop of Cloyne. (See this more at large
in the Gent. Mag. for April 1744.)*

TAR-WATER is a preservative or pre-
parative against the small pox, heals
cutaneous ulcers and eruptions, and the
foulest distempers more successfully than
salivation and wood-drinks, ulcerations of
the bowels, consumptive coughs, and ulcers
of the lungs, cures the pleurisy and pe-
ripneumony, prevents the periodical return
of an erysipelas, is an excellent stomachic,
help-

helping indigestion, and procuring a good appetite, and is a very good medicine in the asthma. It imparts a kindly warmth, and quick circulation to the juices without heating, and is therefore not only pectoral and balsamic, but also a powerful and safe deobstruent in cachectic and hysterick cases. As it is both healing and diuretic, it is very good for the gravel. He believes it to be of great use in a dropsy, having known it cure a very bad anasarca, and remove a very extraordinary thirst in a short time. Tar was by the antients esteemed good against poisons, ulcers, the bites of venomous creatures, and for phthisical, scrophulous, paralytic and asthmatic persons; but the method of extracting its virtues in cold water was unknown to them. *Tar-water* has all the virtues of turpentine, is extremely pectoral and restorative, and possesses the most valuable qualities ascribed to the several balsams of *Peru*, *Tolu*, *Capivi*, and even the balm of *Gilead*; such are its virtues and use in asthmas and pleurisies, in obstructions and ulcerous erosions of the inward parts. Tar in substance, mix'd with honey, is an excellent remedy for a cough; balsams are apt to offend the stomach, so does not *tar-water*,

water, but, on the contrary, is the greatest strengthener of that part the bishop had ever try'd.

The acid, volatile spirit in *tar-water*, at once attenuating and moderately cooling, greatly conduces to health, as a mild, salutary deobstruent, quickening the circulation of the blood without wounding the solids, thereby gently removing or preventing those obstructions which are the cause of most chronical diseases, in this manner answering to the antihysterics, *assa foetida*, *galbanum*, *myrrh*, *amber*, with all the resins and gums useful in nervous cases.

Warm water is itself a deobstruent, but *tar-water* drank warm is easier insinuated into the nice, capillary vessels, and acts by virtue of the vehicle as well as balsam. Its taste, with its diuretic and cordial quality, shew its activity; and at the same time that it quickens the sluggish blood of the hysterical, its balsamic oily nature abates the rapid motion of the too sharp, thin blood of the hectic. *Tar-water* has the stomachic and cordial qualities of elixir proprietatis, *Stoughton's* drops, and many such tinctures, only it works its effects more safely, as it has nothing of the spirit of wine, which, however

ever mixed and disguised, is still a poison in some degree.

Diaphoretics are such medicines as being of an active and subtile nature pass through the whole system, and work their effects in the finest capillaries, and perspiratory ducts, which they cleanse and open. *Tar-water*, by the fineness and activity of its acid, volatile spirit, is extremely well fitted for this purpose. *Tar-water* as a diuretic operates also by urine, a safe and most effectual way for cleansing the blood, and carrying off its salts; but produces its principal effects as an alterative, sure and easy, and much more safely than those vehement purgative, emetic and salivating medicines which do violence to nature.

Weak and rigid fibres are accounted sources of two different classes of diseases. A sluggish motion of the liquids occasions weak fibres, therefore *tar-water* is good to strengthen them, as it accelerates their contents. On the other hand, being an unctuous, bland fluid, it moistens and softens the dry and stiff fibres, and so proves a remedy for both extremes. The balsam of *Peru*, obtained by boiling wood, and scumming the decoction, is a very valuable medicine

dicine in asthmas, nephritic pains, nervous colics and obstructions; the bp thinks, and not without experience, *tar-water* a more efficacious remedy in all these cases than that costly drug. The origin of the gout lies in a faulty digestion, and that distemper is so difficult to cure, because heating medicines aggravate its immediate, and cooling its remote cause. *Tar-water*, which highly strengthens the digestion, and consequently prevents or lessens the fit, or enables nature to drive it from the vitals, yet is not of so heating a quality, as to do harm in the fit itself. *Tar-water* is preferable to soap, opium and mercury, which bid fairest for universal medicines, because these are very dangerous in some cases, as in a phthisic, fever, &c. in which *tar-water* is very safe; so that no medicine is more general in its use, or more salutary in its effects. The bishop has known it do great good in a cold watery constitution, as a cardiac and stomachic, and likewise to allay heat and feverish thirst in another; to correct costive habits in some, and the contrary habit in others, as middle qualities naturally reduce the extremes. It is so far from inflaming, as some have declar'd, that

it is the most ready means to allay a feverish inflammation, and is the surest, safest, and most effectual both paregoric and cordial in fevers, for the truth of which the bishop appeals to any person's experience who shall take a large draught of it milkwarm in the paroxysm of a fever, even when plain water, or herb teas shall have little or no effect. With this only medicine drank copiously in 1741 he cured 25 fevers in his own family, and several among his poor neighbours. Some think an erysipelas and the plague differ only in degree; if so, *tar-water* is useful in the plague, for it has cured an erysipelas. It is a preservative in all epidemic disorders, and against all other infection as well as the small pox. The passions of the mind have a considerable effect in human maladies; *tar-water* procures sleep, and composes the spirits in obstinate watchings, either by sickness, or too intense application of mind. He verily thinks there is no medicine so effectual to restore a crazy constitution, and clear a dreary mind, or subvert that gloomy empire of the spleen, which tyranniseth over the better sort, as they are called, of those free nations. He never knew any evil ensue from its being

D

con-

continued ever so long, but on the contrary many and great advantages, which sometimes perhaps will not begin to appear before it has been taken two or three months.

The bishop's sedentary course of life, he says, had long since thrown him into an ill habit, attended with many ailments, particularly a nervous colic, which render'd his life a burthen. But since the use of *tar-water*, he has found such a gradual return of health and ease, that he esteems his taking this medicine the greatest of all temporal blessings, and is convinced that, under providence, he owes his life to it.

The bishop says, that *tar-water* contains the virtues of the best chalybeat and sulphureous waters, with this difference, that those waters are apt to affect the head, which *tar-water* is not; and there is a regimen of diet to be observed with those, which is not necessary with this. Again, the use of chalybeat waters, however excellent for the nerves and stomach, is often suspended by colds and inflammatory disorders, in which they are very dangerous, whereas *tar-water* greatly contributes to the cure of such disorders.

About the beginning of June last a master coachman's wife in *Albemarle meuse*, by *Albemarle street*, who had for two years before been troubled with a slow fever, and of late with night sweats, a great cough, and want of appetite, was advised to send for some *tar-water* from the warehouse in *Painter's court, Bury street*, which she accordingly did, and having drank six bottles, she is cured of the fever, free from those sweats, as also from her cough, has a good appetite, and sleeps very well.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Mr James Monteath of Adderbury in Oxfordshire, dated Feb. 12, 1744, communicated to Tho. Prior, Esq;

As soon as I saw the treatise on *tar-water*, I made some, and drank 2 or 3 gallons, but felt no other effect from it, but that it increased a good stomach to a stronger; from which time I gave it over, having, I thank God, no need of that or any other medicine: As to myself, I was by no means a fair subject to make any experiment of its virtues upon, being young, and of a robust constitution, and I only drank the *tar-water* to convince others that it could do no harm.

On

On the 2d of *May* last, being curate of this place, I was sent for to pray by a young woman, who, as I was told, lay at the point of death. When I came I found her no better than was represented, speechless, and so weak that she could scarcely open her eyes. Her parents told me that a physician of this country, a man of much knowledge, and great integrity, had just been with her, and said there was no hopes of a recovery, for that she could not live above three days. The young woman was about twenty, born of poor parents, she had for some months been troubled with a cough, and a swelling in her legs and arms, which was now become a dropsy, and was seemingly in the last stage of a consumption. After performing my duty as a clergyman, I told the mother, that as the doctor said her case was so desperate, if she would give me leave, I would try a medicine, which, I believed, might possibly do her service. She readily consented, and I gave her two quarts of *tar-water*, and directions to drink half a pint of it at a time, twice, or, if she could bear it, three times a day warm. After two days she was able to sit up, in 4 or 5 was brought down stairs, had some appetite, and

er cough abated, and the swellings of her legs and arms much sunk; and continuing to drink *Tar-water* two months it entirely recovered her, insomuch that she went to service at *Michaelmas*, and has been well ever since. This is the most extraordinary cure that has come to my knowledge, tho' I have had many patients who have found great benefit from it: but I had particular success with young girls who have been troubled with that destructive disorder the green sickness; tho' I could not enquire into such complaints, I can easily discover them from the complexion. From the almost innumerable experiments that have been made of it, I am fully satisfied that there is no proof of its ever doing hurt; so far from it, that when properly taken, I never have found that it failed of success.

P.S. The vicar of *All-Saints* in *Northampton*, having been lame and infirm, was not able to stir abroad for many years, but by the use of *Tar-water* is so well recovered, that he goes to church, and preaches every *Sunday*.

S I R,

Having received great benefit by *tar-water*, I presume that the publication of my case may be of service to others in the like disorder, insasmuch as it may induce them to experience the virtues of that

that benign, salutary draught, and so be a means of restoring them to a vigorous and happy state of health. In *May* last I was sensibly indispos'd; I wasted daily and became feeble and listless; my appetite fail'd me, what I eat did but just keep me alive, my stomach (which for some time before had been weak) having almost lost its natural faculty of digestion. During my indisposition I had a very bad plethical cough, and continued wasting till *September*; when, being brought very low, I withal felt my lungs very much affected and was afraid of a consumption, which likewise was dreaded by all my friends. I then prepar'd some *tar-water*, according to the good bishop's directions, and drank of it, near half a pint at a time, three or four times a day, all the month of *September*. I had not drank of it past a fortnight before health began to appear in my countenance, my stomach was so much strengthened that I could eat with pleasure, and grew cheerful and active. In the next fortnight I quite lost my cough, was freed from the terrible apprehension of a *tuberculosis*, and am now, I thank God, perfectly hearty; and all through the wonderful efficacy of that sovereign remedy *tar-water*.

— *Quo non presentius ullum
Auxilium venit* —

Oh learned *Berkley*! who enough can praise
Thy gen'rous labour? thy instructive page
Our steps directing to this source of health.
The fair and beauteous pine in vain had shed
Its precious juice, till thou, with curious search,
Explor'd its virtuous qualities, and taught
Mankind the wholesome secret. Thou hast done
A deed well worthy everlasting fame!

Peakirk, near Peterbo-

rough, April 10, 1745.

J. LANDE

The END.